

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A print controller for controlling an image print unit to print an index image on a recording medium to be used for separation when a printed record medium is recycled, comprising:

an output unit that outputs image data representing an image to be printed on the record medium to the image print ~~unit; and~~ unit;

an index unit that determines a group name for the separation based on a printing condition and a criterion, and determining the index image representing the group name to be printed on the record medium together with the image by the image print ~~unit~~ based on a printing condition; and

a changing unit that changes the criterion based on a command inputted to the print controller.

2. (Previously Presented) The print controller as claimed in claim 1, wherein the printing condition is determined based on at least one of the image data and type of the record medium.

3. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: an index print unit that produces image data representing the index image.

4. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 3, wherein the index print unit causes the output unit to output the image data so as to include the image data representing the index image.

5. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the index unit includes a print ratio calculation unit that calculates the occupation ratio of the image to the record medium on which the image is printed as a print ratio; and

the index unit determines the ~~index image group name~~ based on the print ratio.

6. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein the print ratio calculation unit calculates the print ratio based on the number of pixels of the image to be printed.

7. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein the print ratio represents the ratio of the area of the image to the area of both sides of the record medium on which the image is to be printed.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in ~~claim 8~~, claim 1,  
wherein the index unit determines the group name based on color of the image.

10. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a medium judgement unit that judges a type of the record medium;

wherein the index unit determines the ~~index image group name~~ based on the type of the record medium.

11. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 10,  
wherein the medium judgement unit judges the type of the record medium based on an entry operation.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the index image includes a bar code representing an index indication description thereof.

15. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein the index image includes the print ratio.
16. (Original) The print controller as claimed in claim 3,  
wherein the index print unit causes the image print unit to print the index image on the same side of the record medium as the image.
17. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in ~~claims 1,~~ claim 3,  
further comprising an inhibition unit that inhibits an operation of the index print unit based on entry operation.
18. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in ~~claims 1,~~ claim 1,  
wherein the index unit decides the index image based on color of the image.
19. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in ~~claims 1,~~ claim 1,  
wherein the index unit decides the index image group name based on a size of the recording medium.
20. (Currently Amended) The print controller as claimed in ~~claims 1,~~ claim 1,  
wherein the index unit decides the index image group name based on a content of the image.
21. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:  
an image print unit that prints an image on the record medium;  
a printer controller;  
wherein the printer controller includes an output unit that outputs image data representing the image to the image print unit, ~~and an~~ an index unit that decides a group name based on a printing condition and a criterion, and decides an index image representing the group name to be used as an index of separation for recycling the record medium, and a

changing unit that changes the criterion based on a command inputted to the print controller,  
and

wherein the image print unit prints the index image to be printed on the record  
medium by the image print unit.

22. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 21,  
further ~~comprising~~ comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ a scanner to scan an image from an original; and

a data producing unit that produces the image data based on the scanned  
image;

wherein the output unit outputs the image data produced by the data producing  
unit.

23. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 21,  
wherein the image forming apparatus is capable of receiving data from an external data  
sending apparatus;

the image forming apparatus further ~~comprising~~ comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ a data receiving unit that receives data; and

a data producing unit that produces the image data based on the received data;

wherein the output unit outputs the image data produced by the data producing  
unit.

24. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored  
thereon and readable by a computer, the computer program, when executed by the computer,  
causes the computer to perform operations comprising:

calculating the occupation ratio of an image to be printed on a record medium  
to the record medium as a print ratio; and

determining an index image used as an index of separation for recycling the record medium based on the calculated print ratio and performing processing to print the index image on the record medium.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon and readable by a computer, the computer program, when executed by the computer, causes the computer to perform operations comprising:

determining ~~the type of a~~ a type of a record medium on which an image to be printed is printed; and

determining a group name based on the determined type of the record medium and a criterion and determining an index image representing the determined group name used as an index of separation for recycling the record ~~medium-medium~~;

~~\_\_\_\_\_ based on the determined type of record medium and performing processing to print the index image on the record medium-medium; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ changing the criterion based on a command inputted to the computer.~~

26. (Currently Amended) An automatic separation apparatus, comprising:  
a paper receiving unit that receives a recording medium;  
a reading unit that reads an index of separation for recycling the record medium which is printed on the recording ~~medium; and-medium~~;

a separation unit that automatically separates the recording medium according to the read ~~index-index~~ index and a criterion; and

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a changing unit that changes the criterion based on a command inputted to the apparatus.~~

27. (Withdrawn) A controller for an image forming apparatus to form an image on a recording medium, comprising:

an output unit that outputs image data representing the image to be formed on the recording medium to the image forming apparatus;

a print ratio calculating unit that calculates the occupation ratio of the image to the recording medium on which the image is printed; and

an additional image selecting unit that selects a first image to be additionally formed on the recording medium together with the image when the occupation ratio is higher than a predetermined value and selects a second image to be additionally formed on the recording medium together with the image when the occupation ratio is equal to the predetermined value or lower than the predetermined value.

28. (Currently Amended) A controller for an image forming apparatus to form an image on a recording medium, comprising:

an output unit that outputs image data representing the image to be on the recording medium to the image forming apparatus;

a medium judging unit that judges the type of the recording ~~medium~~;  
~~and medium~~;

an additional image selecting unit that selects a first image to be additionally formed on the recording medium together with the image when the judged type of recording medium falls under a ~~predetermined~~-category and selects a second image to be additionally formed on the recording medium together with the image when the judged type of recording medium is out of the ~~predetermined category~~-category; and

a changing unit that changes the category based on a command inputted to the controller.

29. (New) A print controller for controlling an image print unit to print an image on a record medium, comprising:

an output unit that outputs image data representing the image to the image print unit;

an index unit that determines a group name based on a printing condition and a criterion, determines an index data representing the group name to be used as an index of separation for recycling the record medium, and adds the index data to the image data;

a changing unit that changes the criterion based on a command inputted to the print controller.

30. (New) The print controller as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the print ratio calculation unit calculates the print ratio based on the number of pixels of the image based on the image data and the number of pixels of the index image to be printed on the record medium.

31. (New) The print controller as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a display controller that controls a display to display a setting screen for inputting a command for changing the criterion.